



Forest
Service

Northeastern Area
State and Private Forestry

180 Canfield Street
Morgantown, WV 26505-3101

File Code: 3410

Date: December 12, 2018

Subject: 2018 Aerial Detection Survey of WNF

To: Anthony Scardina, Forest Supervisor
Wayne National Forest

During the first week of June 2018, Tom Macy of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources conducted aerial detection surveys in the southeast corner of Ohio in an area that encompassed the Wayne National Forest (WNF). This aerial survey was partially funded by the USDA Forest Service through a cooperative forestry grant.

The survey found a total of 1,955 acres with tree damage or mortality within the WNF proclamation boundary. Most of these areas (1,784 acres) had crown damage that included crown discoloration, dieback, and defoliation and included damage to both conifers and deciduous trees. The remainder of the acres mapped (171 acres) were due to tree mortality caused by emerald ash borer (32 acres), fire (24 acres), flooding (102 acres), and blowdown (13 acres). Emerald ash borer has caused ash mortality throughout the WNF and, although at this time most all ash trees have succumbed to this invasive insect, there are still scattered blue ash currently infested. This survey did not attempt to map all currently dying ash trees but, on occasion when a clump of unknown mortality was mapped from the air and then ground checked as emerald ash borer-caused ash mortality, these areas were included in this report.

Many areas of conifer discoloration were mapped and there was evidence that this was due to foliar pathogens. 2018 was a higher than average precipitation year throughout southeast Ohio, which may have created conditions conducive to the spread of foliar pathogens. A field visit to white pine stands found numerous needle and canker pathogens from a symptomatic tree; an Ohio Department of Agriculture, Plant Health Diagnostic Lab found diplodia tip blight, pestalotiopsis needle blight, anthracnose, and thyronectria canker from eastern white pine branches collected from an area adjacent to the WNF.

The most commonly mapped damage type was yellow poplar defoliation caused by yellow poplar weevil on the Ironton RD (1,300 acres). Maps showing the location of mapped damage are included on the following pages. If you need additional information on the survey results reported here, please contact Chris Hayes.

Sincerely,

Al Steele
Acting Field Representative
Morgantown Field Office



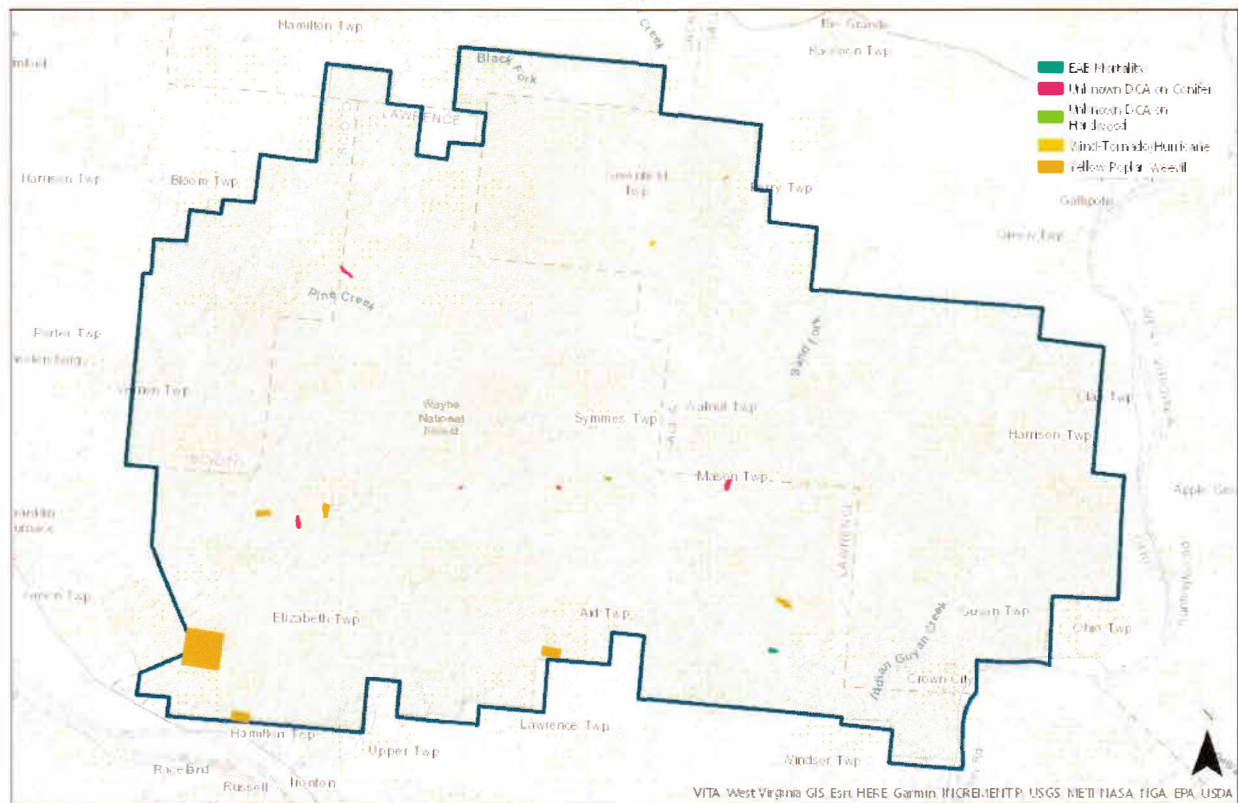


Figure 1. Map of areas of insect and disease-caused damage and tree mortality on the Ironton RD, Wayne National Forest, found by OH, Department of Forestry aerial surveys in Summer 2018. DCA = disease causing agent.

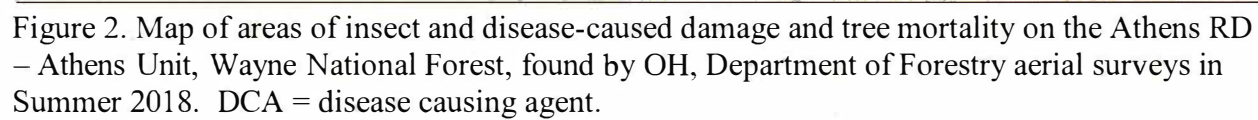


Figure 2. Map of areas of insect and disease-caused damage and tree mortality on the Athens RD – Athens Unit, Wayne National Forest, found by OH, Department of Forestry aerial surveys in Summer 2018. DCA = disease causing agent.

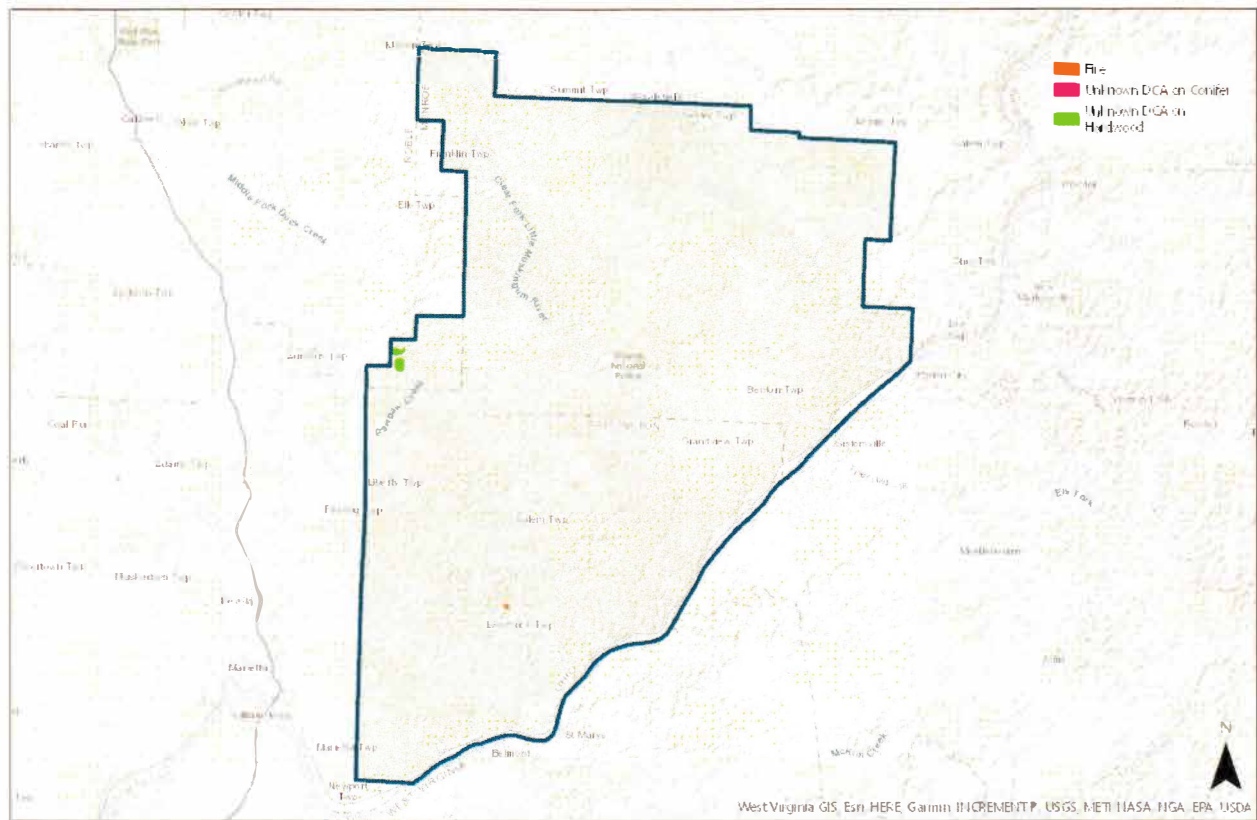


Figure 3. Map of areas of insect and disease-caused damage and tree mortality on the Athens RD – Marietta Unit, Wayne National Forest, found by OH, Department of Forestry aerial surveys in Summer 2018. DCA = disease causing agent.